

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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Situation Report

Severe Storms

May 9, 2002

A lingering storm system produced heavy rain, hail, and damaging winds across the state beginning on Monday May 6, 2002 ending today. The storm is expected to exit the state today with cool dry weather following. Heavy rainfall amounts exceeding 2-4" have been reported across the state. Storms continue to affect the area in Southeast Missouri from Interstate 44 to the Mississippi River. Due to the previous rainfall and nature of the terrain, flooding has been experienced as the watershed empties to the larger rivers. The Missouri River is experiencing a rapid rise is expected to exceed flood stage at some locations. Rivers and streams are expected to begin cresting late today and continue cresting through the weekend.

County Reports:

St. Charles County: A severe storm, containing a possible tornado, caused major damage to several harbors in northeast St. Charles County Monday night, 05/06/02. Most heavily hit was the Northshore Harbor, with approximately 75% of the buildings and docks destroyed, including nine docks and 100 boat slips and boats receiving damage at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million. No injuries were reported and it is the county's belief that most of the damaged docks and buildings were insured. Pole Star Harbor reported damage to docks and boats at an estimated \$100,000. Woodland Harbor and Sherwood Harbor reported minor damage.

Lincoln County: The county is experiencing some flooding, mostly agricultural land, a few homes inundated. The most serious activity is the Search and Rescue operation for a man in his 20's that dove into the Cuivre River near Hawks Point on Monday evening. He has not been seen since. Requests for assistance have been to the ARC-SL(providing a Canteen) Salvation Army, Missouri Water Patrol and numerous volunteers. The Air Evacuation service that supports the county provided an aerial survey of the river. The Lees Summit Underwater Rescue Service has also been contacted for possible support, no report at this time, coordination will be between them and the local EMD. The EMD does not anticipate a need for additional assistance at this time. He also reports agricultural land flooding near the City of Silex. The search will continue today, however, the rains overnight will cause the river to rise again curtailing the search operation.

Boone County: Reported heavy rain and damaging winds. The Boone County Fairgrounds experienced damage along with other structures in the area.

Jasper County:

City of Joplin: Reported wind and hail damage.

City of Carthage: Some Flash Flooding.

Barry County: Mobile home park flooded, a shelter was opened and coordinated by the ARC. Mostly associated with the City of Cassville. Reported road and bridge damage

Taney County: The city of Branson reported some street and low area flooding. Damage to some Mobile Homes and the ARC has opened a shelter.

Stone County: City of Reed Springs experienced flooding and evacuated a mobile home park. Approximately 100 people are in a shelter coordinated by the ARC.

Greene County: Reported water in 30 homes, some rural roads closed by fallen trees and some flash flooding reported.

Wright County: Mountain Grove, a high school girl drowned Tuesday night (May 7th) while driving through a flooded area on a county road. She was swept away in high water from a flooded creek after her car stalled and she tried to walk to safety. Wright County EMD reported at least one business in Mountain Grove sustained damage from flooding. Norwood, high winds and heavy rains from the Tuesday night storm caused damage to several homes. Six mobile homes and 3 other residences were flooded in Norwood, and one trailer outside Norwood was blown off its foundation. Electricity and phone service is still out in several areas.

Howell County: Near West Plains, flooding from the Tuesday night storms may have contributed to a train wreck Wednesday morning, according to the Howell County Sheriff's Office. Three engines and 20-25 cars from a Burlington Northern freight train derailed about 8 a.m. May 8th. About 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled in the accident, impacting Howell Creek. Officials for DNR emergency response, local responders, and Burlington Northern clean-up crews were on site to manage the accident.

Ozark County: The Presiding Commissioner reported damage to county roads throughout the county as a result of Tuesday night's storm which brought about three inches of rain to the area, and an additional 11/2 inches on Wednesday night. He said gravel roads were washed out, several bridges were lost or badly damaged, and tree limbs and other storm debris were clogging bridges and laying across roads in many areas.

Texas County: Licking, several commercial buildings were reported to sustain roof damage from a micro-burst storm Wednesday night (May 8th), according to Texas County EMD. He said there was also some spot damage with tree limbs falling on homes across the county, and some county roads sustained damage from the heavy rains over the past few days.

Reynolds County: The Sheriff's Office reported minor damage with many trees down across the county, and several vehicles were swept into flooded creeks at high water crossings, but fortunately, there were no deaths or injuries from those incidents.

Douglas County: Flooding in the county from the storms of May 7-8 has caused major damage to county roads and bridges, according to Douglas County-Ava EMD. He said the county is in need of disaster assistance (PA) for repairs to roads and infrastructure as a result of the storms.

Butler County: Reports that the Black River is expected to flood, reports suggest that the river will be at or near levee tops for the next 24 to 36 hours. Especially, near the city of Quilin.

Pulaski County: The City of Waynesville Police, Fire and REACT group began evacuating people from their homes near the river. Approximately 20 properties were involved including a trailer park. Water had not reached the homes at the time. Three families were accommodated at the Red Cross shelter set up at the St. Roberts Community Center. All families have moved back but are anticipating the river to rise again due to all the rain. The City Clerk was not sure if water ever got inside any of the homes. The City still had water on their ball field and around the lift station. One low water crossing was closed yet this morning. The city was able to move all their equipment out of the flooded area. Not sure of any damage to property at this time due to the water blocking access.

Crawford County

A couple state roads remain closed this morning (Highways N and WW) and the State Highway Department is working on these. No reports of flooding involving any homes. They are monitoring the river stages. The Meramec River is expected to crest this afternoon.

Ameren UE and Army Corps of Engineers:

Report that both Bagnall Dam and Truman Dam are not releasing any additional water. The pools for both Lake of the Ozarks and Truman Lake are full.

SEMA Actions: State officials are monitoring the situation, as indicated in this report, widespread damage is reported across the state, however, most of the damages reported would be covered under normal maintenance as a result of springtime flooding.

FEDERAL/STATE Actions:

The Disaster Field Office for the Federally declared disaster as a result of tornadoes in 19 Southeastern Missouri counties will open Friday afternoon, May 10, 2002, in Poplar Bluff. Public Officials Briefings will begin this afternoon. Plans are being developed to open Disaster Recovery Centers in Carter and Bollinger Counties early next week.

FORECAST: Clearing today with the highs in the 60s. NWS Pleasant Hill predicts chances for severe weather will return to the state Friday afternoon and remain through the weekend. The highest chance for severe weather is Sunday afternoon.

Points of Contact: SEMA Duty Officer after hours number is 573-751-2748, during normal hours calls should be made to 573-526-9100.